CHARTER COMMISSION CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHARTER COMMISSION'S COMMITTEE ON STYLE TO FINALIZE CHARTER TEXT, WRITE BALLOT QUESTIONS

HONOLULU, HAWAII, July 17, 2006

The 2005-2006 Honolulu City Charter Commission is moving forward with preparations for the 2006 General Election ballot. The Commission's Committee on Style will meet this week to revise the text of charter proposals and write the language of questions for the ballot. The Committee on Style meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 19, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room of Honolulu Hale.

Commission Chair Donn Takaki said, "We will be putting a dozen proposed charter amendments on the General Election ballot. The proposals have already been selected and we are now tackling the important details. It is easy to embrace a broad concept, but it's another matter to decide on the exact charter text and the wording of the ballot questions. We want to make it as clear as possible, so that the voters can make good decisions this November."

At Wednesday's meeting, the Committee on Style will review comments on the proposals received from City agencies. The Commission encourages the public to attend the meeting as the Committee on Style may revise the language of the proposals based on those comments.

NEXT STEPS. The Committee on Style will report their recommendations for charter text and ballot questions to the full Commission for their approval. In the coming months, the Commission will carry out a public information program to educate voters on the proposals. Ultimately, the proposed charter amendments will be placed on the 2006 General Election ballot for voter approval.

LEARN ABOUT THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS. Copies of all proposals are posted as PDF files on the Commission website, http://www.honolulu.gov/chc. Hard copies are also available for viewing at the Commission office at 711 Kapiolani Boulevard Suite 1485, or the Municipal Library in the City Council Annex at 558 S. King Street.

ABOUT THE COMMISSION. The Charter Commission is a 13-member appointed body responsible for revising the city charter, the governing document for the City & County of Honolulu. The convening of a Charter Commission provides a rare and important opportunity for major changes to city government. This is only the fourth Charter Commission convened since the adoption of the city charter in 1972.

For more information, visit the Charter Commission website at http://www.honolulu.gov/chc or contact the Commission staff at 592-8622 or charter@honolulu.gov.

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